

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, before line 1, please insert the following title and paragraph:

**--RELATED APPLICATIONS**

Q1 This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/149,131 which was filed on August 16, 1999.--.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1, 2, 9 and 10 are amended as follows:

Q2 1. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for therapeutic or prophylactic use comprising a solid silicate in crystalline or semicrystalline form, wherein the solid silicate has an average particle size of about 6 microns or less.

2. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the solid silicate is selected from the group consisting of zeolites, clays, double hydroxides, silicalites and mixtures thereof.

9. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 where the solid silicates are dealuminated or partially dealuminated aluminosilicates.

Q3 10. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 where the solid silicates have pores, the pores or the surface of the solid silicates are modified by silanation, methylation, surfactant adsorption or other chemical reaction to change the wettability, particle charge or size of the pores.